

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/716,739 Confirmation No. 6774
Applicant : PANDIAN et al.
Filed : November 18, 2003
Title : METHODS AND KITS FOR DETECTING ITA IN A BIOLOGICAL
SAMPLE

TC/A.U. : 1600/1641
Examiner : COUNTS, G.W.

Docket No. : A-1789 DIV
Customer No. : 33197

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indicated below.

Date: February 23, 2006

By: /Greg S. Hollrigel, Reg. # 45374/
Greg S. Hollrigel

RESPONSE TO AUGUST 23, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the August 23, 2005 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office regarding the above-identified application. A response to the Office Action was due November 23, 2005. A Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith extending the deadline to respond to February 23, 2006. Accordingly, this response is being timely filed. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.